



We Serve

www.5m7.org

FB: 5m7Lions

The Gram

April, 2025

The latest news, views and announcements for District 5M7

2024—2025

5M7 Cabinet

DG—Mary Lee Curtis

DGE—Deb Weston

1VDGE—Nancy Johnson

2VDGE—Joel Anderson

Secretary—

Treasurer— Theresa Goff

PDG—Peter Lendway

Zone Chairs

Zone 1: Josh Gunderson

Zone 2: Glen Nemic

Zone 3: Etic Kronenberg

Zone 4: Kevin Beatles

Zone 5: Steve Asplund

Zone 6: Pete Yelle

Zone 7:

Zone 8: Jeff Allen

Zone 9: Bob Olson

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1VPE Message

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**Radiate...and make your
mark**

Greetings, fellow Lions and Leos!

Spring is here! At least the calendar says so, I'm not so sure Mother Nature is fully on board yet. This time of year, brings to mind the sayings 'April Showers bring May Flowers', and the good old standby 'Spring Cleaning'. We all know what these indicate and how we respond to them in our daily lives. Do you use these analogies in your Lions Club?

As we embrace the season of renewal, it's also an opportune moment to refresh and rejuvenate our clubs and our commitment to service. Much like tending to a garden, nurturing our club's initiatives and projects can lead to blossoming results. Our gardens and flowerbeds don't look the same every year, but we still prepare and enjoy them. Do your long-standing projects need a facelift? Is there room for growth within your already successful projects? How can you change the landscape of your club?

Celebrate the diversity within your club, recognize that each member brings unique strengths and perspectives. Step in, submit your name as candidate for club officer or project lead. By fostering a supportive environment, we can empower one another to make a meaningful impact.

DGE Deb is also in preparation mode for her year as your District Governor. When she calls, answer her. When you get those calls, it means you are recognized for the gifts and talents you embody. Embrace the recognition and consider the growth potential.

With the spirit of 'Spring Cleaning,' let's declutter our minds and refocus on our core values and goals, ensuring that we are prepared for success. Review your club roster and make sure it is up to date. Are you carrying non-existent club members on your roster? What is your plan to increase your club membership?

As the days grow longer and the temperatures begin to rise, we are reminded of the warmth and enthusiasm that characterize our Lions and Leos community. This season is a perfect metaphor for the growth and revitalization we seek within our organization. It's an ideal time to review our past achievements, acknowledge areas for improvement, and set new goals that inspire us to reach greater heights.

Together, let's embark on this journey of renewal with a renewed sense of purpose and determination. Here's to **Radiating** and **Making a Mark** of growth, unity, and success for all Lions and Leos!

Radiate your light, even if it's too bright for those around you. Your presence is making a difference.

Continued on the next page

District Goal updates:

New members = 116. We have a way to go to reach 169. We can do this! We have a net growth of 25 which is wonderful. This number can change in a heartbeat once you start dropping members. Please start to make necessary drops now so we can work to keep our net gain a positive number.

Our District received a High Five from the Multiple Service Team leader for increasing our service reporting! We are currently at 86% (up from 69% last month)! Thanks everyone, keep up the good work.

Plans are underway for the spring training sessions. I want to see representatives from all clubs in attendance. You are the future of Lions in your community – make sure you are armed for success.

April's service focus is on the Environment. April is also National Kite Month. In between those 'April Showers' get outside, do some cleanup and planting. Celebrate your service to earth by flying a kite. Experience the pure joy and happiness that comes from serving the environment surrounding your community and watching your kite soar in the sky.

April is also a big month for our district as we host the Multiple Convention April 25-27 at the Airport Hilton in Bloomington. We are providing many excellent opportunities for you to grow in Lionism with fellowship and informational sessions. I look forward to seeing you there.

Keep on Radiating and Making your Mark!

Governor Mary

Radiate your light, even if it's too bright for those around you. Your presence is making a difference.

Lions doing their part for environment. April 2025 will be MD5M Environment Month



Examples:

Highway clean up, Clean up the park, Recycling program,
Tree planting, Collect used cell phones, Maintain walking trails,
Install bat houses, Beach clean up, Bird houses, Butterfly garden,
Invasive plant removal, Start a school garden



Do you have a Lions License Plate on your vehicle? Did you know you can get one? It's simple, just apply for one when renewing your tabs.

A percentage of the money from the purchase and renewal of these plates is refunded to our multiple. MNDOT sent us \$2,000 from last year's sales.

Kudos to PDG Dan Kaiser for presenting this idea to the state and its eventual reality!



Happy Spring, Lions and Leos!

Spring has finally arrived! Soon, trees will bud, and spring flowers will peek through the ground, promising us beautiful blooms. The rivers and lakes are melting, and birds are returning—what a wonderful time of year!

Spring also marks an important time for club leadership transitions. Many clubs are in the process of **electing officers, board members, and committee chairs** for the upcoming year. If you haven't yet served in a leadership role, I encourage you to consider stepping up. It's a fantastic opportunity to grow, gain leadership experience, and help our clubs thrive!

Spring Expo Leadership Workshops – Mark Your Calendars!

We are excited to announce two upcoming **Spring Leadership Workshops**:

- 📍 **Spring Lake Park High School – Wednesday, May 21, 6-8:30p.m.**
- 📍 **Monticello High School – Thursday, May 29, 6-8:30p.m.**

These workshops will be informative, engaging and fun—don't miss out!

Important Reminder: Report Your 2025-26 Officers

To ensure a smooth transition and maintain accurate records, please report your **2025-26 club officers in the Lions Portal by May 1st**. This allows time for updates and ensures that club communications continue seamlessly. If you need assistance entering this information, feel free to reach out—I'm happy to help! **Email:** dweston2217@gmail.com.

Join Us at the MD5M Convention – April 25-27!

We are thrilled to host this year's **MD5M Convention** at the **Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport**. **This convention is for YOU!**

Here's what you can look forward to:

- ✓ Connect with Lions from **Minnesota, Manitoba, and NW Ontario**
- ✓ Hear from **Joe Schmit**, award-winning KSTP-TV broadcaster, author, and keynote speaker
- ✓ Get inspired by **Lions International President Fabricio Oliveira**, as he shares his vision for the future of service

Don't miss this incredible opportunity—**register today!** Details and registration info are included in this issue.

What is MD5M? Understanding Our Multiple District

At a recent zone meeting, a new Lion asked, "*What is MD5M?*" Others admitted they weren't sure either—so let's break it down!

Our **district, 5M7**, includes **51 clubs** across Anoka, Chisago, Isanti, Sherburne, Washington, and Wright Counties.

Our **multiple district, MD5M**, is an administrative structure within **Lions Clubs International** that consists of **12 districts**, covering all of **Minnesota, Manitoba, and NW Ontario**. MD5M supports leadership training, service projects, and membership growth across these districts.

Each multiple district has a **Council of Governors**, which includes the **district governors from all 12 districts**. This council collaborates to advance the goals of **Lions Clubs International** within our region.

I hope this explanation provides clarity!

Celebrating Our Lions in Action

Recently, our **District Governor's Team** from all 12 districts took a tour of **Can Do Canines** on March 5th. We had the pleasure of meeting **Tucker**, an assistance dog in training who is eager to serve!

We also visited:

- 🐾 **The Diabetes and Vision Foundations and Lions Gift of Sight Offices**

These organizations are **deeply grateful for the support of our Lions Clubs**. Let's continue to support these lifechanging organizations that make a meaningful impact in our communities!

I'm proud to be a Lion and serve with YOU!
DGE Deb Weston



From the 1VDGE Nancy Johnson

Hello Lions All ~

Happy Spring! Although it doesn't always feel like spring, it is great knowing we may have the winter behind us (hopefully). It was a busy month for your Governor's teams for sure. I want to start by thanking all the clubs that have invited us to a Governor's night or a Zone meeting or a regular club meeting. I was fortunate enough to visit with 7 different clubs this month.

Your generosity and kindness are much appreciated. This Governors journey has allowed me to meet so many great Lions and find out how you are all making your clubs successful and planning great events and celebrating each other.

As Spring comes along, it also means its time for elections of new officers. Whether your club is newer or been around for a long time, it wouldn't be successful without officers and those stepping up in different roles. Each role is so important to the development of your club. It's not fair to expect people to continue in a role for years on end and it's not fair for those who may want to try something new. It may seem like a big commitment but it's part of our need for service. Service to your club and it's success. Please don't be afraid to step up and try something new. I had never planned on being Governor or taking a big role in leadership. I was hesitant to be a Zone Chair; but once there, I loved it and it wasn't hard to gather Lions together and share success stories. Consider taking a role in your club or zone or our Cabinet to help make a difference.

I attended the Council of Governors meeting this month at the Double Tree Inn in Roseville. I was so impressed with our Governors team. There is a lot that happens behind the scenes and a lot of responsibilities included. They truly care how our Districts are run and do the very best for all of us. Kudos to our current leadership.

How are we doing on service projects? I see most all clubs are now reporting their service on a regular basis. I have enjoyed reading your reports and seeing how much time and effort everyone is putting in to help others. Thank you for getting these reports entered on time.

Hope to see many of you at the Multiple Convention, April 25-29 at the Mpls-St. Paul Hilton. I'm looking forward to hearing the speakers and more than anything, visiting with our International President Fabricio Oliveira.

Keep on radiating and making your mark on everyone you meet!

1VDGE Nancy Johnson





Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



Lions of MD5M,

Attendees of the MD5M 2025 Convention in Bloomington, Minnesota will be in for a real treat with the lineup of guest speakers scheduled to appear. These speakers will provide you with heart-warming stories and inspirational talks on mental health, inclusiveness, service dogs, and helping others while making a mark in your community.



Joe Schmit is an award-winning broadcaster, community leader, author, and popular keynote speaker. He is a long-time youth mentor committed to advocating for several community organizations and has contributed time to many other charitable organizations including Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund, The Mind over Matter Foundation, VEAP, and the Fairway Foundation. Joe is also an author of three books: "Silent Impact," "The Impact Blueprint" and "The Right Thing To Do," a children's book about Minnesota Twins Hall of Famer Joe Mauer.



Katie Shatusky is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of Thumbs Up, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping others and uplifting the community. In 2014, she co-founded Thumbs Up in honor of her late grandfather, Bob Schmit, who died by suicide in 2010. Katie is also the author and illustrator of the children's book, *The Ladybug Hug*. One of her most profound experiences was donating a kidney to a complete stranger in October 2020, exemplifying her commitment to making a difference in the lives of others.



PDG Daniel Marney Elkins is a professional drug prevention specialist and is the executive director of the Bellevue Community Center. He specializes in creating youth leadership programming by teaching strategic thinking and service learning. PDG Daniel is one of the founders of the Lions Virtual movement and has presented at several International Conventions, USA/Canada Forums, Europa Forums, Anzi Forums, ISAME Forums and at district conventions around the world. He was appointed to the Lions' International Board of Directors in 2023 by Dr. Patti Hill. PDG Daniel has also served as a new club development consultant for Lions Clubs International.



PCC BJ Blahnik is originally from Seymour, Wisconsin, is the youngest of five children and was raised around farming. He was diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) at about the age of ten. After his retirement due to his diminished vision, PCC BJ and his wife Victoria opened in 2017 their own business, Reach Forward, which works with special needs individuals through day services and a residential program. In 2006 PCC BJ's life changed forever when he received his first Leader Dog. In October of 2022, he returned for his current Leader Dog, Jackson, a male Yellow Lab. Prior to Jackson's formal training in Rochester Hills, MI, he was raised by traditional puppy raisers in SE Michigan. Leader Dog Jackson is PCC BJ's fifth Leader Dog, so he is calling him Jackson 5.



IP Fabrício Oliveira is a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club since 1985 and has held several offices in the association. In recognition of his service as a Lion and to the association, he has received many awards including multiple International Presidents' Certificates of Appreciation, Leadership Medals, Presidential Medals, and the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor awarded by the association to its members. International President Fabrício and his wife, Amariles, also a member of the Catolé do Rocha Lions Club and a Melvin Jones Fellow, have two daughters, a son, and a granddaughter. International President Fabrício's theme for this year is **Make Your Mark**. The IP believes there is a leader inside every Lion and all leaders know that, through collective action and individual commitment, we can inspire and empower whole communities.

Joe Schmit, Katie Shatusky, and PDG Daniel Marney Elkins will be speaking at morning and afternoon seminars on Saturday, April 26th. IP Fabrício Oliveira will be our keynote speaker at the Saturday evening dinner. PCC BJ will be speaking at the morning brunch on Sunday, April 27th.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to hear from these wonderful speakers. Come to the MD5M 2025 Convention, hear our speakers' inspirational words, and take them back to your community to share with your fellow Lions. Please register today for the MD5M 2025 Convention!

Thank you for your consideration,

5M7 Lions MD5M 2025 Convention Planning Committee



April 2025

MD5M CONVENTION REGISTRATION



Ignite the Lions Pride Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025

5m7lions@gmail.com



Greetings!

Lion leaders from across Minnesota, Northwest Ontario and Manitoba will be holding a big Convention, April 25 – 27, 2025 at the Hilton Minneapolis – St. Paul Airport in Bloomington. This event brings together between 300 and 400 Lions who will spend 3 days focused on increasing and strengthening leadership. We will explore opportunities for service, hear from inspirational speakers, build knowledge, visit with Lions charitable foundations, share our experiences and learn new ways to make a difference for a whole lot of people locally and across the world.

The convention team is filled with enthusiasm and invites you to join us as we plan this event. Your support will directly contribute to the success of our convention. It's a great way to show you care and at the same time market your organization to the 300 - 400 Lions who will be in attendance.

We have several levels of support available:

Gold Sponsor—\$500 contribution

Full page ad in convention booklet Name + logo listed in sponsor honor roll + event signage

Silver Sponsor - \$250 contribution

½ page ad in convention booklet Name + logo listed in sponsor honor roll

Bronze Sponsor—\$100 contribution

¼ page ad in convention booklet Name listed in sponsor honor roll

Organizing such an event comes with its challenges, especially when it comes to covering the costs associated with rentals, printing, presenters and other learning materials. That's where your support can make a world of difference.

Being a Lion means knowing that kindness matters. We believe in changing the world by serving the needs of our local communities. More than 1.3 million Lions around the world respond to local and global challenges with kindness and care.

I would be glad to follow up with details, next steps and to answer questions about Lions and opportunities available through this convention.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

5M7 Lions Convention Planning Committee



THE LIONS PRIDE

105th - MD5M Multiple Convention April 25-27, 2025

Hilton Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport

2025 MD5M Registration Form

(Please Print)



☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Guest

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify dietary needs:

☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free Other: _____

I am attending the convention but **NO MEALS** are required,
\$0.00 cost to attend. ☐

☐ Lion ☐ Leo ☐ Guest

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ Prov/State Zip _____

Email Address _____

Title: _____ District: _____

Club: _____

☐ Check if this is your 1st Multiple Convention

Please specify dietary needs:

☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free Other: _____

I am attending the convention but **NO MEALS** are required,
\$0.00 cost to attend. ☐

	Cost Prior to March 1, 2025		Cost after March 1, 2025		\$ Amount
Full Hospitality Book: (Hospitality book includes convention and all meals)					
	\$192.00 USD	\$261.00 CDN	\$220.00 USD	\$304.00 CDN	
Separate Meals: (Do not select if you have purchased a hospitality book)					
Friday Night Social	\$23.00 USD	\$32.00 CDN	\$27.00 USD	\$37.00 CDN	
Saturday Breakfast	\$32.00 USD	\$44.00 CDN	\$37.00 USD	\$51.00 CDN	
Saturday Lunch	\$46.00 USD	\$62.00 CDN	\$53.00 USD	\$73.00CDN	
Saturday Banquet	\$78.00 USD	\$106.00 CDN	\$90.00 USD	\$124.00 CDN	
Sunday Brunch	\$39.00 USD	\$53.00 CDN	\$45.00 USD	\$62.00 CDN	
Total \$ Amount if separate meals chosen:					

- No meals available after April 1, 2025.
- Make Checks payable to: 5m7 Lions
- Mail registrations to: **MD5M Convention c/o Judy Herrala, 222730 Waco Street, NW, St. Francis, MN 55070** —OR— you may register online: <https://sites.google.com/view/md5mmultipleconvention?usp=sharing>

HOTEL INFORMATION: Hilton Minneapolis-St Paul Airport, 3800 American Blvd East, Bloomington, MN 55425

Call (952) 854-2100 to book your room reservation. Ask for the "Lions 2025 Convention" rate.

Room rates are \$119.00 per night plus taxes and fees. Room reservation cut-off is April 1, 2025.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact: Registration Committee Lion Orville Lindquist at (612) 850-8132—OR—email at orville.lindquist@gmail.com or PDG Judy Herrala at 1-763-753-6962—OR—Email at JLHBELLS@earthlink.net

ADVERTISING IN THE CONVENTION BOOKLET

ALL ADS ARE **FULL COLOR**

Hundreds of Lions in attendance, representing the nearly 20,000 Lions across Minnesota, Manitoba and Northwest Ontario.

Lions are leaders in the community, providing important volunteer and financial support to a multitude of programs and services. They have strong ties and support with businesses, schools, youth programs, healthcare institutions, and local governments.

This is your way to become a part of the greatest service organization in the world - Lions Clubs International.

Already a Lion? Advertising in the convention booklet is also a great way to thank and recognize others - friends, your Club, District leaders and more.

Inside Front Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$750
Inside Back Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$750
Outside Back Cover - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$1,000
Gold Sponsor - Full Page	8½" x 7"	\$500
Silver Sponsor - Half Page	4¼" x 7"	\$250
Bronze Sponsor - Quarter Page	4¼" x 3½"	\$100
Business Card	2" x 3½"	\$ 75

Please send all ad copy formatted as JPEG, PNG, TIFF, PDF as email attachment to:

orville.lindquist@gmail.com. We need your ad by April 1st.

Make checks payable to **"LIONS CONVENTION"** and mail to the address below.

Orville Lindquist
9537 Jackson Street NE
Blaine, MN 55434

Thank you for your support!



Ignite the Lions Pride MD5M Multiple District Convention April 25-27, 2025



TABLE SPONSORSHIP

Sponsors would have the opportunity to secure a table dedication in their honor for each of the meals. Sponsors can be individuals, clubs, districts, foundations, businesses, or other entities. Sponsors would have exposure to all attendees at all the meals.

Four meals at the MD5M 2025 Convention:

Saturday Breakfast
Saturday Lunch
Saturday Banquet
Sunday Brunch

Terms of sponsorship:

Tent cards or signs would be placed at the table indicating the sponsorship.

Sponsorship would be for all four meals at the convention.

Sponsors wishing to use a logo would provide a suitable digital file for use in the creation of the tent cards/signs.

Sponsors will also be listed on the sponsors' page in the convention booklet.

Sponsorship cost is \$250.00US.

Table Sponsorship registration:

Name:

Address:

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Make checks payable to “5M7 Lions” and mail order form and check to the address listed below:

**MD5M Convention
c/o Judy Herrala
222730 Waco Street NW
St. Francis, MN 55070**



GUIDING LION TRAINING



The overall goal of this workshop is to familiarize the Lion with the roles and responsibilities of a Certified Guiding Lion and Give the Lion the knowledge needed to carry out these responsibilities.

MD5M Convention
Friday, April 25, 2025
1:30P-4:00P
All Lions Are Welcome



Lions Worldwide Induction Day!

Register Today!



5M Multiple Convention

Saturday, April 26, 2025, 1:00 PM

Airport Hilton Hotel
Bloomington, Minnesota

WWID is a global membership celebration held on the last Saturday in April to unite clubs around the world in welcoming new members.

MD5M is hosting a Worldwide Induction Day at this years Multiple Convention.

We welcome any new member (joining around Oct. 1 or after) to be inducted by International President Fabricio Oliveira. Register using the QR code or this link:

<http://bit.ly/4202Uec>





**Ignite the Lions Pride
MD5M Multiple District Convention
April 25-27, 2025**

5m7lions@gmail.com



MD5M 2025 Lions Convention Clothing



T-Shirts – price per item – \$23 (S – M – L – XL) – \$25 2XL – \$27 3XL – \$29 4XL – \$31 5XL

Hoodies – price per item – \$35 (S – M – L – XL) – \$37 2XL – \$39 3XL – \$41 4XL – \$43 5XL

Polos – price per item – \$27 (S – M – L – XL) – \$29 2XL – \$31 3XL – \$33 4XL – \$35 5XL

Colors Available (all clothing) – Black – Maroon – True Royal Blue

Bee-Seen Promotions has this convention clothing available at their MD5M on-line store!

MD5M Link & QR code:

<https://www.storessimple.com/beeseenpromotions/30017>



You can also check out the merchandise on their Lions on-line store:

<https://www.storessimple.com/beeseenpromotions/10350>



**Thank you for your consideration,
MD5M 2025 Lions Convention Planning Committee**

CLUB FUTURE FOCUS

Time to get ready for the new Lions year!

LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS

All clubs select their leaders & reported in Lions portal by **May 1**

It is important to meet this deadline and report emails so new club leaders can receive communication from District leadership

2025 SPRING EXPO—LEADER TRAINING

All leaders for 2025-2026 should mark their calendars for leadership training to prepare for their roles and responsibilities

This year we will have general training for all club leaders, Even if you have been a leader before, plan to attend—you will find new info here.

Interested in future leadership? You are encouraged to attend, too!

All leaders should plan to attend one of these sessions, even if they have served in leadership roles before.

They can share what they know in addition to picking up new skills

Wednesday, May 21 6—8:30 PM

Spring Lake Park High School

Thursday, May 29 6—8:30 PM

Monticello High School

RSVP LINK—by May 15

<https://forms.gle/3t6dLS6gM26YmiN86>





Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation Annual Walk

TO D-FEET HEARING LOSS



JUNE 7, 2025

MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM - CHASKA, MN

Registration: 9am-10am Walk Starts: 10:15am Lunch Begins: 11:15am

- Entry Fee: \$25 (no t-shirt) or \$35 (includes t-shirt)
- Fee includes entry to arboretum/park, lunch, plus lots of activities and games!
- Kids under 12 are free!
- Fun for families of all ages!
- A chance to change a person's life through your registration donation.
- Register at: <https://secure.qgiv.com/event/2025-d-feet-hearing-loss/>
- Learn more at: 5mhf.org or at facebook.com/5mhf.org



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM

*Sign up
Today!*



Lions Clubs International – Club Marketing Teams matter!

Club marketing is so important to what we do as Lions. There are great opportunities for Lions to get involved in the planning and execution of their club's promotion of activities and projects. There are even opportunities at the district and multiple district (MD) level for Lions ready to take on a bigger marketing role. Here is how you can put your passion for promotion to work.



Be a marketing champion in your club. Consider becoming a member of your club marketing team. Your team should have a chairperson and other members to cover the various methods of club marketing. These methods include Facebook/Social Media, Newsletters/Print, and Website. Help build a marketing culture within your club membership. Proudly wear your Lion gear when you serve and remember that you are a brand ambassador for your club and Lions everywhere.



For those inclined to take a more active role in promoting their Lions club, why not become the Club marketing chairperson? Energize and lead your club marketing efforts. Develop marketing plans for projects and membership drives, use social media to share your stories, and work with your Lions and community partners to put a spotlight on your service.

If your club currently does not have a marketing team, you are missing opportunities to promote your club events and activities in your community. This also means you are not reaching out to potential event participants as well as potential new members and community partners. Do not let other local volunteer organizations get the attention your Lions club needs and deserves in your community.



Please devote the time your Lions club needs to establish a club marketing team. With your club currently setting up its board of directors and chairpersons for next year, this would be the perfect time to establish a marketing team. This team, along with the new club leadership, can develop a marketing plan for engaging your community. To learn more about club marketing and the tools available to you, please visit the link below:

<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/club-marketing>

Lion Lyle Goff
MD5M Marketing & Lions Information Chair

Youth Outreach - Lion Jan Kugler

Thank you to the clubs that participated in the 2024 Peace Poster Contest. I am looking forward to seeing what talent we have in our middle school aged children that will participate in the Lions International 2025 Peace Poster contest. The theme this year is "Together as One". I would **love to have ALL the clubs in our district** participate in the 2025 contest. Your club does not need to buy a kit that includes the contest rules, deadline dates and winner recognition information. Your club would just to have a chair person willing to contact the middle school in your club area. Your club should have a chair with the information in their hands by the beginning of the school year. Contact me (763-360-1620) if you would like your club to participate or for more information. Your club would have to pick a winner by the middle of November 2025 and the poster given to the current DG by Nov. 15th. I already have 7 clubs interested; Monticello, North Branch, Coon Rapids, Cambridge, Howard Lake, Waverly and Spring Lake Park.

At the midwinter convention I chatted with clubs that would like to have a drug awareness contest recognition at our 2026 midwinter convention. There are 4 clubs that are interested in doing so: Howard Lake, Waverly, Monticello and Spring Lake Park. The age groups could be anywhere from grade school to high school. Again, contact me for more information if your club would like to participate at 763-360-1620.



EMERGING LIONS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE ELLI

Congratulations to six 5M7 Lions who stepped up to complete the Emerging Lions Learning Institute March 14-16, 2025 in Willmar. ELLI is a full weekend of learnings on; Lions basics, leadership skills and time to learn about clubs and projects from other Lions in our entire Multiple. These Lions are ready to head back to their clubs in 5M7 and take the next step to lead with confidence. We look forward to seeing where their new ideas and passions will take them.

Lion Jim Boroughs Coon Rapids Lions Club
Lion Beth Holmquist Ramsey Lions Club
Lion Brian Posch Otsego Lions Club
Lion Amanda Schloer Almelund Lions Club
Lion Aubrianah Schloer Almelund Lions Club
Lion Karen Strong Spring Lake Park Lions Club

MD5M offers a leadership training track once a year, ELLI or RLLI, watch your newsletter starting in August for next year's opportunity date.

MD5M Co-GLT Chair
Stefanie Nelson



TEAM SHEEHAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION UPDATE

MARCH 16, 2025

In February, I had the pleasure of presenting a check from TSCF to the Buffalo Lions Club. The funds will be used toward a community splashpad to be built in the memory of Andrew who passed away from cancer at age 4. More information about this project can be found at: [Andrew's Splashpad](https://splashforandrew.org)
<https://splashforandrew.org>.



TEAM Sheehan
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Together Everyone Achieves More

We have not held a board meeting since my update last month. As a reminder - If you have any plans for a community project, the deadline for this quarter is **March 31, 2025**. The grant application can be downloaded from the www.TEAMSheehan.foundation website.

The Foundation relies on monetary donations to continue awarding matching grants. Pins are given for individual monetary donations of \$100 and medals for \$1,000 donations. Photos are below. If you would like to donate, please make a check payable to Team Sheehan Charitable Foundation and mail it to this address:

Spring Lake Park Lions Club
PO Box 32955
Spring Lake Park MN 55432

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Lion Toni Mortensen
Spring Lake Park Lions Club
District 5M7 TEAM Sheehan Charitable Foundation

Youth Outreach - Lion Jan Kugler

Thank you to the clubs that participated in the 2024 Peace Poster Contest. I am looking forward to seeing what talent we have in our middle school aged children that will participate in the Lions International 2025 Peace Poster contest. The theme this year is "Together as One". I would **love to have ALL the clubs in our district** participate in the 2025 contest. Your club does not need to buy a kit that includes the contest rules, deadline dates and winner recognition information. Your club would just to have a chairperson willing to contact the middle school in your club area. Your club should have a chair with the information in their hands by the beginning of the school year.

Contact me (763-360-1620) if you would like your club to participate or for more information. Your club would have to pick a winner by the middle of November 2025 and the poster given to the current DG by Nov. 15th. I already have 7 clubs interested; Monticello, North Branch, Coon Rapids, Cambridge, Howard Lake, Waverly and Spring Lake Park.

At the midwinter convention I chatted with clubs that would like to have a drug awareness contest recognition at our 2026 midwinter convention. There are 4 clubs that are interested in doing so: Howard Lake, Waverly, Monticello and Spring Lake Park. The age groups could be anywhere from grade school to high school. Again, contact me for more information if your club would like to participate at 763-360-1620.



Donate Life Month



Donate Life Month is a time to celebrate and honor organ, eye, tissue, whole body, blood, and bone marrow donors, all of whom have saved or bettered the lives of other individuals, often strangers. Each year, the Lions Gift of Sight eye bank kicks off the

month with a Donate life flag raising ceremony at their Saint Paul home.

Coffee, cookies, and wonderful speakers from Lions Gift of Sight, the University of Minnesota, and partner donation organizations help to raise awareness of the gifts of donation, before and after death. By raising the Donate Life flag, we also honor those who have already given.

Please join us at our flag raising on Monday April 7th, 2025. Program: 10am. Location: University Enterprise Laboratories (UEL) Atrium, 1000 Westgate Dr., St. Paul Mn 55114 (south entrance)

Lion Ron Tiernan

612-462-2651

ronalddtiernan@gmail.com

Lion Steve Linder

612-382-2236

Slinder71@usfamily.net

LCIF

Your 5M7 Coordinators would like to give a shout out to the clubs and the members of our district! We exceeded (may we say “blew past”) our goal of \$51,168.00 for a total of \$77,387.00, as of March 3, 2025. That was above our goal by \$26,219!

Mark your calendars for March 29, 2025. The LCIF Coordinators from across MD5M are planning a big party called “The LCIF Gala – Go For the Gold-ish”. This is a multiple-wide fun-raiser for LCIF. Our special guest is PIP Douglas Alexander who will be awarding MJF's and PMJF's to those who have personally contributed \$1000.00, or those who may be awarded without former knowledge (in otherwords surprised). There is a contest for the most gold-ish costume, raffles and silent auction. This is sure to be an event not to be missed!

Your LCIF Coordinators

IPDG Peter Lendway & PDG Mark Landwehr

Conventions and Forums Calendar

Upcoming Conventions are:

2025 MD5M Convention, Bloomington, at the Minneapolis Airport Hilton April 25 – 27

2025 International Convention, Orlando FL, July 13 – 17

2026 5M7 Midwinter Convention TBD (stay tuned for more info)

2026 MD5M Convention, hosted by 5M5, will be in Minnetonka (stay tuned for more info)

2027 MD5M Convention, hosted by 5M1, will be in Rochester (stay tuned for more info)

Upcoming Forums are:

2025 USA/Canada Forum, Atlantic City, NJ, September 18 - 20

5M7 YOUTH EXCHANGE REPORT

Submitted by: Lion Wendy Graves 5M7 Youth Exchange Chair 24-25



Calling all Lions and Leos!



We Serve

Hello Lions & Leos! I need your help. We have 30 youth that are excited to come to Minnesota this summer and we need host families. Could this be THE YEAR you try hosting? Do you know a family that may like to host? We hosted with Youth Exchange for several years prior to joining Lions as being a Lion is not required to host.

Youth Exchange is an incredible program, our family has really enjoyed getting to know all the youth we have hosted. If you are interested in getting more information about hosting a youth or two, please do not hesitate to contact me. Lion Wendy Graves, lionwendygraves@gmail.com 612-296-8879

Hosting youth need not be expensive to have fun! Some examples of free or nearly free activities we enjoy are

Como Zoo, St Paul

Willow River State Park, Hudson WI

Cascade Falls & then Ice Cream Parlor for cones, Osceola, WI

Farmers Market, Minneapolis

Jay Cooke State Park, Carlton

Hmong Village, St Paul

State of MN Capitol free tours, St Paul

Banning State Park, Sandstone

Fireworks, nearly anywhere around July 4th

Stone Arch Bridge, Minneapolis

Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, Minneapolis

Minnehaha Falls, Minneapolis

Minnesota Historical Center, Thursday nights are free, St Paul

Central Park, check out summer concerts on event schedule, Maple Grove

Feed My Starving Children volunteering events, multiple locations

Canal Park, Enger Park, Lief Erikson Park and Park Point Recreational area, Duluth

Check your community calendars as several communities have concerts in the park and they are usually free include Cambridge & Lindstrom

Isanti has Street Dances, Main Street in Isanti

A few brief facts about Youth Exchange

The youth generally arrive about July 1st and leave about July 31st

They spend a week at Camp Spicer

You do not have to have a partner or children in the home to host

You can host even if you work full time

They bring their own spending money

The lists of youths available starts in January

Youth can usually leave Minnesota if you have a trip planned

There is a small stipend available to hosts to assist with the cost of hosting



PROJECT NEW HOPE



Military Family Retreats
at no cost to Veterans



"At Project New Hope, we are driven by our mission - to provide education, training and skills necessary to manage their lives after wartime service."



FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO
WWW.PROJECTNEWHOPE.NET OR SCAN THIS CODE:

2025 MINNESOTA RETREATS

2025 MAY 2-4

Camp Shetek near Slayton, MN

2025 JUNE 6-8

Osprey Wilds near Sandstone, MN

2025 OCTOBER 3-5




Good Earth Village - Spring Valley, MN

2025 DECEMBER 5-7

Faith Haven Camp near Battle Lake, MN

News from the Monticello Lions Club

Every February the Monticello Fire Department and the Monticello Lions Club participate in a Chili Cook-off event during our general meeting. Anyone from the Fire Dept. or any Lions member can sign up to participate in the event by either entering a chili or being a chili judge! This year we had 11 chili entries and the winners are as follows:

- 3rd Place  = Lion Mick Maher
- 2nd Place  = Lion Jim Schillewaert
- 1st Place  = Fire Fighter (Lion) Bo Nelson



Vision Voucher Program

The Hanover Lions Club has partnered with the Buffalo school district with a "vision voucher" program. There was a need and the Lions stepped up. After a school sight screening and a child was identified as potentially benefitting from glasses, the process often stopped there due to financial challenges. A partnership was formed. The partners include the Hanover Lions Club, the Buffalo school district and two Buffalo eye clinics. The eye clinics agreed to a base price to do an exam and provide a pair of glasses. The Hanover Lions Club contributed five \$400 vouchers to cover these costs. The Buffalo school nurse is the coordinator of this project.



The Montrose Lions Club donated \$3,000 to Montrose School of Innovation for their playground project.



Ham Lake Lions Breakfast

Pancakes with scrambled eggs, sausage, juice & Coffee.

FREE WILL donations will be accepted

Sunday, April 13th, 2025

8:00am - 12:30pm

Ham Lake Senior Center
15544 Central Avenue
Ham Lake, MN 55304



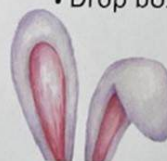
Bicycles to be given away

21st Century Bank

"Donated By"

Pioneer Cycling & Fitness and Bikes 4 Kids

- Cub Scout Bake Sale
- **FREE** Children's Vision Screening
- Drop box for used eye glasses & hearing aids



Pictures with
the Easter Bunny!



Elk River Lions are on the Move!

We served 77 seniors at our Pancake Dinner at Guardian Oaks Dining site. Our guests brought 66# of food and \$531 that was donated to CAER Food Shelf that serves—Elk River, Otsego & Zimmerman.

Several Minnesota Lions attended the first ever Lions Day at the Capitol. The speakers at the rotunda included Can Do Canines, KidSight and State Representative Kristin Robbins.

Please join us Sunday, April 13th from 8-12 at our Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!



Lions Rhende & Caroline



Lions Kevin, Fred, Diane, Rhende, Caroline, Michele, John and Paul.



Lion Kevin delivering donations to CAER



Volunteers William, Samuel and Ripley



Hosted by: ELK RIVER LIONS CLUB

Guardian Oaks – 350 Evans Ave, NW, Elk River

Sunday – April 13, 2024

8:00am – Noon

Cost: Free Will Offering

All proceeds will be donated to “Open Doors for Youth”

Pancakes w/all the toppings, sausage, milk, coffee and juice

- Visit & take photo's with the Easter Bunny
- Special gift from the Bunny for the 1st 70 kids
- Face Painting 8:30-11:30am
- Frost your own cookie
- Balloon Artist
- Gift card drawing every ½ hour

FREE EYE SCREENING



Please bring a non-perishable food item for CAER

Elk River Lions have been “SERVING” our community for over 54 years and help support many different events, causes, organizations and individuals in need.

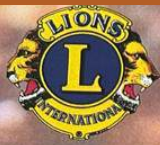
Lions Day at the Capitol



Lions Kevin and Joy, 1VDGE Diann Bellmont, DG Deb Bialke and DGE Zach Wosmek



Lion delegation & Representative Kristin Robbins at Lions Day at the Capitol



CHISAGO LAKES LIONS
invites you to join us!

Swedish Waffle Celebration

Belgian Waffles with Toppings served with
Sausage, Milk, Juice & Coffee

SATURDAY MARCH 22nd, 2025
8 AM - 11:30 AM

Chisago Lakes Township Hall - 12400 316th St
Lindstrom, MN 55045



Advance Tickets \$10.00, \$12.00 at the door
Children Under 5 eat free
All You Can Eat! • Available To-Go
Gluten Free Option Available

Advanced sale tickets: Darlene Shafer 651-785-5282

Hanover Lions



Smelt Fry and

Grilled Pork Chop Dinner



SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH

HANOVER CITY HALL

11:30PM TO 5:00PM

Adults - \$16.00
Kids 6-12 - \$10.00
Kids Under 6 - Free

**DINNER INCLUDES: SMELT, GRILLED PORK
CHOPS, BREADSTICKS, COLE SLAW, BAKED
BEANS, COOKIES, MILK & COFFEE**

SPRING LAKE PARK LIONS COMMUNITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST

ALL ARE WELCOME

Spring Lake Park High School
1100 81st Ave NE-Enter Door #29
West parking lot at Able St NE & 81st Ave NE

Cost: Good Will Offering
Mar 30, 2025 | 8am - 12pm

All you can eat:

Pancakes, French Toast, Sausage, Eggs, Coffee, Juice and Milk

Host



Event Partner



Sponsored

Aprons and Towels provided by



EXPLORE

Community Resource
& Wellness Fair

DONATE

Cell Phones
Eye Glasses
Hearing Aids
Non-perishable Food

FREE ACTIVITIES

Eye Screening (6m - 16yr)
Face Painting
Balloon Artist
And More.

ON SALE

Baked Goods
Big Coloring Books



APRIL 11TH 4PM-7PM

BECKER LIONS FISH FRY

Fundraiser

Includes :

FISH - COLESLAW - BREAD - DRINKS

14000 Clubhouse Ln Becker, MN, 55308

Phone: (763) 200-4268

\$16 ADULTS
\$8 FOR KIDS
12 & UNDER
4 & UNDER FREE
CHICKEN STRIPS
AVAILABLE FOR
KIDS

2025



Hello Fellow Lions and LEOs! Your state fair coordinator, Lion Karen J Strong, here reaching out early to all 5M7 clubs. State fair will be at our door before we know it. I want to provide some new information and a calendar so you can plan ahead! State Fair is a wonderful opportunity to earn money for your club. Don't miss your chance!!! Your volunteering efforts will gain you not only \$\$\$s, but also free parking, and free access into the fair.

2025 Minnesota State Fair Dates: Aug. 21 to Labor Day, Sept. 1

A few new processes will be implemented in 2025. There will be two phases for accepting volunteers: club holds and open scheduling.

If your club worked in 2024, your club will be allowed to hold the shifts your club worked for the 2025 season. These shifts must have committed volunteers assigned to them by the club hold cutoff date. Any shift without a named volunteer will roll into open scheduling.

Open scheduling will be first come first serve and must have committed volunteers named when making the request.

You will not receive mailed passes for shifts without a named volunteer. I will coordinate with clubs directly for passes needed after the mail date.

No outside groups or individuals will be contacted unless there are significant open shifts left to fill on August 1st and are not guaranteed. Clubs will have priority consideration on any open shifts not assigned to clubs.

WORK YOUR SHIFTS - KEEP YOUR SHIFTS - COMMIT EARLY!

If you have questions or you need to add/change your contact information, please email. mnstatefairlion@gmail.com

CLUB HOLDS

May 10 - July 1

OPEN SCHEDULING

July 1- Last Sunday of Fair

CALENDAR

May 10 - Volunteer request email sent to all clubs

July 1 - unrequested or unnamed volunteer shifts rollover to open scheduling

Aug 1 - Non-district worker request email sent, if needed

Aug 9 - Club schedules emailed for verification

Aug 11 - Passes mailed

Aug 18 - Club schedules emailed

